

brought down from Heaven by an angel, and presented to Clovis, king of the Franks. Upton calls it '*les gladioli*,' and his translator, Dame Juliana Barnes, tells us that the arms of the King of France 'were certainly sent by an Angel from Heaven, that is to say, iij. flouris in manner of swordis in a field of azure, the which certain armys were given to the aforesaid Kyng of Fraunce in sygne of everlasting trowbull, and that he and his successors always with battle and swords should be punished.' It has been also called a toad, and the head of a spear, and Dallaway and Lower incline to the latter belief.

I am not going to record all the arguments which have been from time to time brought forward in support of this or that theory. My province is to state facts and leave you to draw your own deductions. As an ornament, the *fleur de lys* is seen on Roman monuments, and as the top of a sceptre or sword-hilt from the earliest periods of the French monarchy. (See engraving.) As a badge or cognisance it first appears on the seals of Louis VII. of France, called *Le Jeune*, and also surnamed *Fleur*, from the abbey of that name, the favourite retreat of the French kings, and where Philip I. was buried.

By Philip II., surnamed Augustus, the contemporary of our Richard I. and John, it was borne both singly and repeated '*sans nombre*,' and analogy supports the conclusion which one of the most intelligent of French writers came to long ago,—that the *fleur de lys*, or *flower de luce*, was merely a rebus signifying *fleur de Louis*, or *flower of Lewis*.*

Whatever may have been its derivation, its appearance in English coat-armour is early and frequent, as may be expected when we remember the land from whence issued so many followers of the Norman William. Like the lion of the north, and the eagle of the south of Europe, the flower adopted by the mighty sovereigns of France as their family ensign, cognisance, or device, became, differently tintured, the armorial coat of numbers, who could claim connection with, or owed fealty to them. An example of it as '*armes parlantes*' occurs in the rolls of Henry III.'s time: '*Robert d'Agulon, de goules ou ung FLUR DE LIS d'argent*.'—Glover's Roll: Agulon and Agulho, signifying, in mediæval Latin, a point, or the top of a spire, '*Aper turris Ecclesie*' (Du Cange in voce). The pointed architecture of the thirteenth century presenting us almost invariably with floral terminations (finials) of this precise form.

But there is another example in the same roll remarkable for its disagreement with the usual coat assigned to the name: '*William de Cantelowe*,' bears '*de goules a trois FLURS DE LICES d'or*,' not a word, you perceive, of '*the leopards' heads jessant de lis*,' which we afterwards find in the coat of Cantelups, which is the same name spelt indifferently in those days Cantelowe, Cantelo, Cantelup, or Cantilupe, and whilst in the Cottonian MS. B. M. marked Julius C. 7, and in Charles's Roll, we find the original form of the charge without the '*Leopards' heads*' ('*testes de LUPARS*'), a painting of the arms of the time of Edward I., indicates, I think, how they were introduced into the globular portion of the ancient figure, leaving *why* still to be discovered.

If not an amalgamation of separate coats, in token of alliance or sub-infederation, it was probably a heraldic difference assumed by a junior branch. The arms of the See of Hereford, adopted from those of Thomas de Cantelape, forty-fourth Bishop, A.D. 1275, son of William, Lord Cantelupe, and Eva de Broose, presents us still with the '*Leopards' heads reversed jessant de lis*,' another difference of this coat, quartered also by the Wests, Earls of Delaware, and Viscounts Cantelupe.

The *fleur de lys* was soon selected as a general mark of cadency, and also used as an ornament for the diapering of shields, that is, covering the whole field, or separate portions of it, with a pattern independent of the

heraldic bearings, in imitation of the fine cloths made at Ypres, in Flanders, and therefore called '*d'Ypre*,' from whence our modern diaper: see a supposed specimen on the shield of Robert de Vers, Earl of Oxford, under MARKS OF CADENCY, which has been curiously misinterpreted by some writers."

From Mr. Planché's able and ingenious disquisition, which, we may say, is throughout profusely illustrated with woodcuts, we deduce, first, that heraldry appears as a science at the commencement of the thirteenth century, and that, although armorial bearings had then been in existence for some time, the precise date of their first assumption has not been discovered. Secondly, that the object of those who assumed bearings was not, as it has been generally believed, to record any achievement or to symbolise a virtue; but to distinguish their persons or properties in a manner to be easily recognised, and show their alliances or holdings. And, thirdly, that thus looked at, it is seen to have a new value, the importance of eliciting genealogical facts being admitted by all. We cordially recommend the work.

LONDON CHURCHES REOPENED.

Six churches, and all of some pretension, have been lately reopened, or are now under repair, in almost every instance at considerable expense.

St. Paul's, Covent Garden.—This is certainly a building of considerable simple grandeur; but that it is "one of the finest pieces of architecture"—a very common expression for it—is, in deponent's opinion, "quite another thing." Nearly the whole external grandeur is owing to the projecting roof, without which the building would appear tame and the windows petty. The original appearance, as seen in the earliest engravings, was far less elegant, from there being no steeple. A very small cupola, for bell, was placed on the south porch, which, with the north vestry and rustic gateways, are coeval with the church. Afterwards, a large square open cupola was erected, and replaced after the fire of 1796, which destroyed the interior of the church only, by the present steeple, which contains two bells—the larger a fine one—and has a pleasing appearance from every quarter but the west. The east portico—of "election" notoriety—of two circular and two square columns, is Tuscan, the side blank walls dubious, and the arches in them ugly. A clock with figures appears in the old views, where an illuminated one was set up about eighteen years ago. The interior is airy and neat, but has nothing striking except the altar-piece. The present popular rector, Mr. Hutton, has been active in the repairs. Four thousand five hundred pounds was the sum for the time and building charged to the Earl of Bedford by Inigo Jones.

The spirit of the late excellent duke, in erecting the spacious and exceedingly neat market, at a cost of 40,000*l.*, or upwards—though doubtless paying very well—is worthy of notice.

St. Mary-le-Strand is termed a specimen of ornament judiciously applied, columns and entablatures abounding throughout. The tower is grand in front, but the sides too shallow; the semicircular chancel beautiful. Perhaps the lower windows being blank gives a grandeur to the interior, which partly resembles Whitehall Chapel, though without galleries, and with an arched, elaborately panelled ceiling. The organ-loft, lofty and isolated, on four fluted marble or stone columns, is to be extended to the side walls. In the chancel are stained windows and two upright paintings in frames ("Brown pinxit").

St. Andrew's, Holborn, has been thoroughly repaired. This has been termed about the most elegant Protestant church in Europe: the proportions are fine, 105 feet by 63 feet, and 43 feet high, the centre not much exceeding the sides. It may be affirmed that columns rising, as here, from the galleries, excel those from the ground, as at St. Martin's. The armorial windows at the ends of the aisles contrast curiously with the older stained glass in the chancel. Whether the strange communion table, of marble, in steps or stages,

and wrought iron, placed here some six years ago, will be liked or not, can hardly be predicted before a view of it. The bells, eight in number—tenor, 28 cwt.—are good, though rather even toned, but not often rung: the tower, favoured by its position, is 110 feet high.

St. Botolph's, Aldersgate, has such a "queer" look, that it has been supposed by passers-by to be a "brewery": the upper part of the tower, which contains two bells, the larger a melancholy-toned one of 14 cwt. is deplorable, and the lower story is below the floor of the church, yet this church, rebuilt nearly forty years ago, is said to have cost 10,000*l.* and the stuccoed ceiling of the nave alone 1,500*l.* The whole of the interior certainly is neat: the pulpit, organ, and some other parts good, though not the best. In the north aisle is a monument from the old church, the inscription on which ends thus—

"Who blessed each gift, improved each favour given,
Believed and wrought:—the rest remains for Heaven."

St. Giles's, Cripplegate, has been repaired, from church estates, and, from rather a dingy or disfigured, has a cheerful internal appearance. Here appears a late style, rebuilt after a fire in 1545. The arches, seven in number, on each side, are excellent, springing from foliated corbels, above light clustered columns. Galleries end before the easternmost arches on each side. The tracery of every window, except in the tower, has been removed. The chancel is modernized Roman, with a circular window, a refined, though minute altar-piece, a brass railing, and a pavement of black and statuary marble. In this part are some good monuments: that of *Milton*, buried under the reading desk, on one of the pillars in the nave, was erected by Samuel Whitbread, perhaps rather from a republican sympathy. The canopy of the pulpit is a grand one. In the churchyard is a fragment—and that a "bastion"—of the old city wall, which ran tolerably straight by Sion-college to Bishopsgate. The tower is 120 feet high, without the cupola.—about the length of the church. It contains celebrated lively chimes, erected or restored, about sixty-five years ago, on ten bells, which change every three hours, having seven or eight tones, play treble and bass on some notes, and have been improved by Professor Taylor. In the tower are twelve bells, besides that in the cupola, tenor 35 cwt. The churchyard entrance, nearly disused, with carvings of hour-glasses, skulls, &c., is dated 1660.

This church has been, for whatever reason, a favourite one for general charity sermons: part of the choir of St. Paul's has attended; and Madame Caradori, as a friend of the organist, Mr. Mitchell, has been heard (acog). On the evening of the reopening, the 12th ult., a sermon was preached for the Cripplegate Pension Society, by the Vicar, Archdeacon Hale (who has given a third—afternoon—service, and is popular with the parishioners), from Acts xx. 35. He well urged the helplessness and mutual dependence of men, the nobleness of "labouring to support the weak," even if they have erred, not only because this would give the best claim to remonstrance, but because any disposed to refuse might be sinners themselves, unworthy, if weighed by their own merits, to offer their addresses to heaven.

St. Luke's, Old-street, is also repairing and cleaning, which was very much needed. Some old stained glass had been placed in the chancel window previously; and the organ, now under the presidency of Mr. Smart, repaired at an expense of 600*l.*, about seven years ago. The heavy interior, with large Ionic columns, and a very elliptical ceiling, rather resembling a hall, contains 1,600 sittings; but there are now five other churches in the parish of 60,000 inhabitants, or upwards. Most persons know the curious tower and fluted obelisk, above 200 feet high, of this church, and it is hard to say, looking at it in different lights, whether it should be called impressive, or ugly; though very easy to define it a caprice, *vis generis*. The larger bell of two is astonishingly grand for its weight, not quite 29 cwt.

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* We must recollect also that Clovis is only the Frankish form of the modern Louis; Clovis, Clodovius, Lodovico, Lodovico, Lodovico, Louis, the s being dropped, as in Clothe, Lothario, Chilperic, Hilperic, &c.